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SEVEN PERISH WHEN PORT SAID IS TORPEDOED

Italian Liner Is Reported Sunk by Submarine Flying the Austrian Colors; Destroyer Chases the Submersible Away

CRAFT HIT BUT ABLE TO PLUNGE

Destroyer After Rescuing Survivors of Liner, Takes Another Vessel in Tow for Carrying Supplies to Enemy Submarines

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

MILAN, Italy, Dec. 25.—A Tripoli dispatch to the Secolo says that the Italian liner Port Said has been sunk by a submarine flying the Austrian colors. Six passengers and one member of the crew perished. The rest were saved.

An Italian destroyer chased and shelled the submarine, which was of large dimensions. Although believed to be hit, the submarine was able to plunge and disappeared. The destroyer then turned her attention to a small Greek liner, a witness to the engagement, and a craft to this vessel led to the suspicion that she was in connivance with the Austrian.

After rescuing the survivors of the Port Said, the destroyer took the suspected liner into Tripoli for a strict search on the belief that she has been engaged in supplying enemy submarines.

A London dispatch on December 17, reported the sinking in the Mediterranean of the Italian steamer Porto Said, or Port Said, a vessel of 5,367 tonnage. She had sailed from Genoa November 17 for Alexandria, according to the latest maritime reports.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—A British official statement issued tonight says: "There is no truth in the reports of the sinking of British monitors in the Tharsis, which was announced recently in a Turkish official communication. No armed vessels have been sunk except two small river monitors, the abandonment of which was announced in official report of December."

ROME, Dec. 26.—The Giornale di Italia says that King Peter of Serbia, on December 18 went from Durazzo to Achona aboard an Italian torpedo boat on the same day. An Italian submarine attempted to sink the Italian Steamer Danino in Durazzo bay, but being commanded, disappeared.

HOLD FUNERAL OF COL. BROMWELL

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Dec. 26.—The funeral of the late Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Bromwell, U. S. A., who shot himself in Honolulu a couple of weeks ago will be held today from the home of Mrs. Bromwell's mother, Mrs. M. T. Scott, in this city.

The honorary pallbearers were Colonel Abson L. Patrick of the engineers corps, C. S. A.; former Governor J. W. Fife, James S. Ewing, Carter Harrison of Chicago; Judge Sam Welty, Houston Owsley, Chicago; Secretary of State G. Stevenson of Illinois; Lyman Graham, J. T. Lillard, C. P. Soper, F. D. Morris, and Dr. W. E. Guthrie.

MILITIA TO HAVE BULLDOG OF NAVY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 26.—The battleship Oregon, "bulldog of the navy," will be turned over to the California Naval Militia at San Francisco on February 15, according to orders received today by Commander J. M. Reeves, from Secretary of the Navy Daniels. The Oregon is expected to remain here a few weeks longer.

The militia will not be given an opportunity to handle and fire the 13-inch guns of the Oregon, in Commander Reeves' opinion, because of the heavy cost of operating these big pieces and the long course of training required.

GRAND JURY TO TRACE FUNDS FOR GERMAN AGENT ACTIVITIES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Attempts will be made tomorrow by the federal grand jury to trace the disposal of a fund of \$125,000 which Gustave B. Kuhnemann is said to have admitted was turned over to the North German Lloyd Steamship company in New York and sent to San Francisco to further the alleged activities of German agents here.

Robert Capelle, head of the San Francisco agency of the North German Lloyd company, who was subpoenaed last Friday night, will be questioned tomorrow, it was announced. Federal agents had been trying to find Capelle

NO HEAVY FIGHTING ON ANY FRONTS, BUT PAPERS MAKE ATTACKS

United Kingdom Witnesses

General Abandonment of
Truce Between Political
Parties Cemented for
Duration of War

MISMANAGEMENT IS CHARGED

Two Latest Counts of In-
dictment Against Cabinet
Are Postponement of the
Munitions Plan and With-
holding Recruiting Report

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Christmas passed without heavy fighting anywhere on the European fronts. The United Kingdom, however, witnessed a general abandonment of the truce between the political parties, which was observed during the early months of the war and which apparently was cemented for the duration of the war when the coalition government was formed.

The past week has seen a steady growth of the newspaper attacks on the government, the general burden of which is the slowness, the lack of foresight and decision, and the mismanagement of the Dardanelles campaign. While all newspapers dismiss any partisan motives, all the more prominent ones participating in the opposition belong to the conservative party, with the exception of the Manchester Guardian.

The newspapers generally hold Premier Asquith responsible for the conduct of affairs. The Northcliffe Group, headed by the Times and the Daily Mail, with the support of the Morning Post, was joined today by the Observer, which, like the London Sunday paper and the Referee, which has a large audience among the masses.

David Lloyd-George is the only candidate advanced for successor. He commanded Lord Northcliffe's support some time ago in his speech advocating the government while being "too late" of the least important crisis of the war, and at the same time valued too him-

self a larger following.

The two latest counts of the indictment of the cabinet are the postponement until after the holidays of the munitions plan and the postponement of giving the country any insight into Derby's report on his recruiting results. In the meantime the verdict of union labor on Mr. Lloyd-George's appeal to relax union rules in munitions work to permit of the entry of some unskilled laborers, is awaited with interest. One hundred and fifty delegates of the engineering society met in London this week to consider terms for settling differences with the government.

Speculation over the development of an attack on the entente allies at Salonika continues. Some reports credit the central powers with a plan to break down on Salonika from three sides, the Germans forming the center with the Turks and Bulgarians on the left and right wings respectively.

From different correspondents come various reports on the situation in the Balkans, some contending that the Bulgarians have accomplished all the territorial gains within their immediate ambitions and therefore will not move further. Other correspondents represent them as being determined to extend their boundaries to include the important port of Salonika.

Germany probably is confronted with the problem of reconciling the conflicting ambitions of her two Balkan allies, Turkey and Bulgaria, and also trying to keep the friendship of Greece whose support she is credited with still hoping to gain.

The latest reported Greek move is the prohibition of the export of coal supplies from Greece to the French British army at Salonika.

General Carron, chief of the French general staff, has visited King Constantine and met the Greek King's wife and the ministers of the little countries.

King Peter of Serbia has arrived in Italy from Athens and will be the guest of King Victor Emmanuel. King Peter will be entertained in the royal palace at Caserta.

WEATHER TODAY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—For Arctic Monday and Tuesday generally fair, colder Monday.

DECIDE TODAY FOR OR AGAINST DERBY PLAN

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A cabinet council will be held today and it is expected will make a decision on the question of whether the Derby scheme of recruitment justifies continued adhesion to the voluntary system or whether some form of conscription will become necessary.

The Times suggests this morning that our constituents are in a majority in the cabinet and that should force be decided upon some anti-conscription ministers will resign. They will not go to this extreme until all hope of securing unity in the cabinet is abandoned. Their plan, according to The Times, is to give the single men another chance for a fortnight, during which time the serious position would be brought home and that if this plan still failed to bring the men to the scratch, the ministers will reluctantly abandon their opposition to conscription.

Another solution to the problem is

to general election on the question and it is stated that the ministers also have discussed such a solution.

The Times' military correspondent is evidently skeptical of the success of the Derby scheme, urges the house of commons to insist in the coming debate that the report shall reveal the total defect in the army. He infers that the limitations are not being kept up to their proper strength and that the whole notion of the numbers abroad and at home needs closer examination.

The correspondent concludes that the times, counting only the men actually at the front, have about six million in the enemy's five million, that this superiority has been almost reduced to equality by the strategy of the past year and by the special conditions of the Italian theater, which enable some three hundred thousand to four hundred thousand Austrians to hold up the Italians.

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